



## **Councilmember Francisco Heredia District 3**

### *News and happenings in West Mesa*

#### **June 2021**

Greetings District 3 Neighbors!

Summer is upon us here in Mesa. School is out, the temperature is in triple digits and there are lots of things happening around our City.

Mesa pools are now open, Mesa Parks have lots of youth activities, plus many other opportunities are available throughout Mesa.

If you haven't yet, get your vaccine and continue to stay safe and be courteous to others.

Also, check out my new Instagram page, @MesaDistrict3! I will be sharing cool photos from throughout the district.

As always, you can contact my office: [District3@mesaaz.gov](mailto:District3@mesaaz.gov) or 480-644-6275

~Councilmember Francisco Heredia

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. Heredia", written in a cursive style.

## HYDRATION DONATION CAMPAIGN

For the past 15 years, the annual [Mesa Hydration Donation Campaign](#) has been saving lives during the extreme Arizona heat. City elected officials and community and business leaders are urging the public to join in this annual effort to collect 400,000 bottles of water to help Mesas most vulnerable residents. .

Since the campaign began in 2007, the Mesa community has donated more than 4.5 million bottles of water.

The Mesa Hydration Donation campaign is a stark reminder of the dangers of summer heat in Arizona, which first responders encounter daily.

Residents can donate water at various drop-off locations throughout the City. The complete list of locations is available [here](#). Another way to boost donations is the One Ton Water Challenge. Promoted by the Mesa Chamber of Commerce, United Food Bank and the City of Mesa, it challenges businesses, residents and organizations to buy a pallet of water, which weighs more than one ton, for approximately \$150. Individuals can split the cost so its about 75 dollars each. To donate a pallet, contact Melissa Forrester at [mforrester@unitedfoodbank.org](mailto:mforrester@unitedfoodbank.org).

The campaign has already received pallets of water donated by several businesses, including Cigna, JacksonWhite, Norris Air, Walmart and Niagara Bottling.

The Mesa Hydration Donation Campaign will be collecting water until Friday, October 1.



## COVID IMPACT SURVEY

Maricopa County Department of Public Health is seeking to understand how the pandemic has impacted residents and how to support the community in a post-COVID environment.

We have launched the ***COVID-19 Community Impact Survey*** which will help guide future community health improvement planning and funding efforts over the next two years to assist in the recovery of COVID-19. Grants will be awarded throughout the county to local governments and community-based organizations to support our communities and address priority areas.

**You can help by:**

- **Taking the Maricopa County COVID-19 Community Impact Survey.**  
[Click here](#) to take the survey



# How has **COVID-19** impacted your life?



## We want to hear from YOU!

Maricopa County Department of Public Health is seeking ways to better support our community as we start resuming our lives in a post-pandemic world. Even if you were never sick with COVID-19, your life was impacted.

Your responses to the COVID-19 Community Impact Survey will help shape the future of Maricopa County. You can help inform new solutions to community problems and support those most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In return, we are committed to sharing the information learned so that we may all benefit and can take collective action.



Available in  
more than  
a dozen  
languages!

## TAKE THE SURVEY: [MaricopaHealthMatters.org](https://MaricopaHealthMatters.org)

- Participants can be anyone (12 years and over) who is a resident of Maricopa County.
- Information collected will be kept confidential and used only in combination with others participating in the survey.
- It only takes about 15 minutes to complete!



Scan the code for survey!







## ¿Cómo el **COVID-19** ha impactado su vida?

### ¡Queremos escuchar de ti!

El Departamento de Salud Pública del Condado de Maricopa está buscando maneras de apoyar a nuestra comunidad a medida que comenzamos a reanudar nuestras vidas en un mundo posterior a una pandemia. Su vida se vio afectada incluso si nunca se enfermó de COVID-19.

Las respuestas a la Encuesta de Impacto Comunitario COVID-19 ayudarán a dar forma al futuro del Condado de Maricopa. Tu puedes ayudar a informar y ser parte de las soluciones a los problemas de la comunidad y apoyar a los más afectados por la pandemia de COVID-19. A cambio, nos comprometemos a compartir la información obtenida para que todos podamos beneficiarnos y podamos emprender acciones colectivas.



¡Disponible  
en más de  
una docena  
de idiomas!

### ¡Participa en la encuesta! **MaricopaHealthMatters.org**



- Los participantes pueden ser cualquier persona (12 años o más) que sea residente del condado de Maricopa.
- La información recopilada se mantendrá confidencial y se utilizará solo en combinación con otras personas que participen en la encuesta.
- ¡Solo toma 15 minutos completarlo!



Escanear el código  
para la encuesta

## SUMMER READING PROGRAM AT MESA PUBLIC LIBRARY



School's out and what's a better way to start the summer than registering for summer reading! Mesa Public Library is participating in the countywide Summer Reading Program, encouraging people of all ages to read at least 20 minutes a day.

The theme of this year's program, which begins June 1, is "Tails & Tales," encouraging readers to explore the many stories of the animal kingdom by reading, completing challenges and attending virtual events and participating in community experiences.

The program plays a vital role in helping to reduce the "Summer Slide" or the learning loss experienced while transitioning between school years. Studies have shown that students who participate in a summer reading program have better reading skills at the end of the third grade and score higher on standardized tests than students who do not participate. Summer reading loss is also cumulative - by the end of 6th grade, children who consistently lose reading skills over the summer will be two years behind their classmates. Reading just five books over the summer can prevent summer reading loss.

Participants in the Summer Reading Program earn one point per minute for reading physical or electronic books or listening to audiobooks. Additional points are earned by attending virtual events hosted by librarians and completing online library challenges.

Prizes are based on the number of points readers achieve. Pre-readers and kids up to age 12 who achieve 500 points receive restaurant coupons while all ages who accumulate 750 points earn an Arizona State Parks Pass. Anyone reaching 1000 points can choose a free book or donate it to a local Head Start classroom. Prizes and coupons are based on availability and subject to change due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Grand prize drawings will also be held for a chance to win a Phoenix Zoo Prize Bundle, Harkins Theatres Family Prize Pack, a Sea Life Aquarium Family 4-Pack and a Legoland Discovery Center Family 4-Pack.

Mesa's Summer Reading Program continues through Aug. 1. To register, visit [www.mesalibrary.org/events/summer-reading](http://www.mesalibrary.org/events/summer-reading).

## ARIZONA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY JUNE SUMMER CAMPS



Arizona Museum of Natural History's summer camp program is back with a new creative format for 2021. Like so many businesses we have had to "pivot" from our usual 100% in-person camps, and we are excited to offer several unique, fun summer camps for our dino fans to enjoy and keep busy during the Arizona summer.

Cretaceous Camps are new this year and are divided into two age groups. Ages 6 and 7, and ages 8 to 10 years. Campers will spend a one day in-person experience visiting the museum, our paleontology lab, and a fossil preparation activity. They will then continue the rest of their camp journey online with a prehistoric virtual reality safari, exploring a world of giant marine reptiles, dinosaurs, and other cretaceous critters. The camp includes a live zoom call with a paleontologist. The museum is closed to visitors at this time. The in-person day is available June 14, 15, or 16, either from 9am - 11am (ages 6 and 7) or 1pm to 3pm (ages 8 to 10). Cost is \$25, or \$15 for Members.

For Paleo Portal we have partnered with Fossil Crates to create a completely new virtual summer camp for ages 11 - 15 years streamed from the Virtual Museum. Join a paleontologist online as they take you through the Paleo Portal to the Virtual Museum. This program offers an optional physical crate of fossil casts for purchase. Participants are required to have a working video camera and microphone. Cost is \$99 for the Virtual Museum experience only. (15% discount for members). Cost is \$219 for the Virtual Museum experience and Crate. (15% discount for members).

All camps require preregistration and refunds cannot be issued. More information can be found at [AzMNH.org](http://AzMNH.org).

## Q&A WITH COUNCILMEMBER HEREDIA



In the next edition of Q&A with Councilmember Heredia, I will be talking with Dr. Cecilia Rosales, Associate Dean at the University of Arizona Zuckerman College of Public Health. We will be discussing the COVID-19 vaccine. Be sure to check my [Facebook](#) page for the video, coming soon!

## **Dr. Cecilia Rosales**

Associate Dean  
Community Engagement & Phoenix Programs  
University of Arizona  
Zuckerman College of Public Health



## **POOL SAFETY TIPS**



Swimming pools and spas are great places for family fun. It's important to ensure everyone follows these simple safety steps to stay safer in and around the water.

1. Never leave a child unattended in or near water.
2. Teach children how to swim.
3. Teach children to stay away from drains.
4. Ensure all pools and spas - both in your backyard and any public pool - have compliant drain covers.
5. Install proper barriers, covers and alarms on and around your pool and spa.
6. Know how to perform CPR on children and adults.

For more information on Pool Safety, visit [here](#).



## MESA POOLS NOW OPEN



All nine City of Mesa pools are open for the summer. The pools open for public swimming at 1 p.m. most days. Skyline and Rhodes will be open on Sundays. For specific pool hours, visit [www.mesaparks.com/pools](http://www.mesaparks.com/pools). All pools will be open daily through July 24. Mesa, Stapley, Skyline and Rhodes will be open until July 31. Skyline and Rhodes will be open weekends through Labor Day, Sept. 6.

There will no longer be the one hour, 50-minute session times so you can swim whenever you want during public swim hours. We will also have a new re-entry process in place, so people only pay once per day to enter the pool and swim until the pool closes.

[Pre-registration](#) is still encouraged and families can pre-register for the day. The pre-registration rate is \$2 per person while the drop-in rate is \$4 for adults, \$2 for youth 17 and under and \$2 for seniors 55 and older.

Find your nearest pool and cool off with us this summer!

Brimhall Aquatic Complex  
4949 E. Southern Ave.

Carson Aquatic Complex  
525 N. Westwood

Fremont Aquatic Complex  
1101 N. Power Rd.

Kino Aquatic Center  
848 N. Horne

Mesa Aquatic Complex  
1630 E. Southern Ave.

Rhodes Aquatic Complex (FlowRider)  
1860 S. Longmore

FlowRider rates are \$6 for youth and \$12 for adults for a one-hour ride while the fence is in and \$9 and \$17 without the fence. No fence Flow Sessions will be held Saturday mornings.

Shepherd Aquatic Complex  
1407 N. Alta Mesa Dr.

Skyline Aquatic Center  
845 S. Crismon Rd.

Stapley Aquatic Complex  
3250 E. Hermosa Vista

Summer season passes are not being offered in 2021. We hope to resume offering summer season passes in 2022.

## MESA PARKS SUMMER YOUTH ACTIVITIES



Mesa Parks has many activities for kids all summer long.

Back again for summer 2021! Take and Make activity bags are designed for children ages 6-12 years of age. Each participant will receive a complete camp kit, including materials and instructions for more than ten activities, crafts, experiments, and recipes, to be completed in the comfort and safety of your own home. Take and Make bags are available for pick-up bi-weekly between 8 am-5 pm at the Eagles Community Center –

828 E. Broadway Rd, Mesa. ***Pre-registration is required.***

Summer camps are also being offered, based on availability.

For a complete list of all summer programs offered through Mesa Parks, click [here](#).

## COVID-19 ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The City of Mesa continues to accept applications for the 2021 Emergency Rental and Utility Assistance Program (ERAP) in response to COVID-19's financial impact to Mesa residents. Funded through the U.S. Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, the program provides rent and utility assistance to prevent eviction and homelessness.

Since the ERAP funding became available in early February, the City has helped more than 1,100 households in Mesa with more than \$5.5 million dollars in rent and utility assistance.

To qualify, you must be a City of Mesa resident impacted by COVID through a significant lifechanging event such as loss of job, reduced hours and medical expenses. Your household monthly gross income must be at or below 80 percent of the median depending on the number of household members. Priority will be given to applicants who have any household member unemployed for the last 90 days or longer due to COVID or the total household income is at or below 50 percent of the area median income

Applicants to the 2021 ERAP program must have documentation including a photo ID, proof of income for all household members for the last 60 days, a current lease

agreement and a current utility bill. Assistance is based on availability of funding.

Online and paper applications are available at <https://www.mesaaz.gov/mesacares>. Residents needing assistance completing the application may visit MesaCAN (Mesa Community Action Network), 635 N. Broadway, Monday to Friday between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. They may also call (480) 644-5440 or email [ERAPinfo@mesaaz.gov](mailto:ERAPinfo@mesaaz.gov) for assistance.

## 2021 ARIZONA CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM



The Titan Solar Power Arizona Celebration of Freedom Drive-In Fireworks Show will be held Saturday, July 3 from 9 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the parking lot of Fiesta Mall, 1425 W. Southern Ave. The FREE event, and the state's coolest festival to celebrate America's freedom and independence, will once again be a Drive-In Fireworks Show for this year due to an abundance of caution while we maintain social distancing guidelines.

The fireworks will be displayed while one of our sponsors, 94.5 KOOL-FM, plays patriotic music you can tune in and enjoy.

For more information, visit the [ACOF home page](#).

## JUNE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS



The Mesa City Council holds two Council meetings a month, in addition to weekly study sessions. All meetings can be viewed live on both the [City's Facebook page](#) and [Mesa Channel 11's YouTube page](#).

Council meetings are currently being held virtually and the process for citizens to participate in the meetings can be found [here](#).

#### **June Council Meetings**

Monday, June 7- 5:45 p.m.

Monday, June 21- 5:45 p.m.

#### **June Study Sessions**

Monday, June 7- 5:15 p.m.

Thursday, June 10- 7:30 a.m.

Thursday, June 17- 7:30 a.m.

Monday, June 21- 5 p.m.

Thursday, June 24- 7:30 a.m.

*\*- Meetings subject to start time changes*

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## **WHAT'S HAPPENING**

**July 3- [2021 Arizona Celebration of Freedom](#)**

Drive-in Fireworks Spectacular beginning at 9 p.m. at Fiesta Mall.

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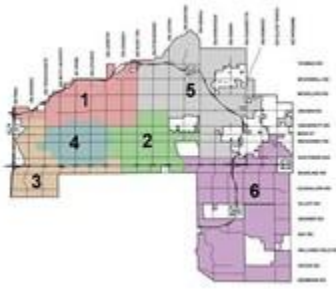
## **NEW INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT**

Councilmember Heredia is now on Instagram! Give me a follow and stay up-to-date with District 3. Follow me [here](#).





## STAY INFORMED



Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#)! For Council meeting info click [here](#). Visit [Mesa Channel 11](#) for more updates.

Phone: 480-644-6275 Email: [District3@mesaaz.gov](mailto:District3@mesaaz.gov)

Stay Connected with Councilmember Francisco Heredia

